



# Georgetown Steam Plant Flume Clean up and Replacement Seattle, WA



The City of Seattle (City) is preparing to clean and replace the **Georgetown Steam Plant Flume** (Flume). This work will be done as part of the larger effort to clean up the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site. The City will conduct part of the Flume project as an Independent Remedial Action. The remainder is being performed under U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) oversight as part of an Administrative Settlement Order on Consent (ASAOC).

## ***State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist Complete***

The City of Seattle has completed an environmental checklist for the project and will issue a Determination of Non-significance (DNS) in early February. Notice of the DNS will be published in the following papers:

- Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce
- Seattle Times
- Seattle Post Intelligencer
- South District Journal

Copies of the checklist and DNS will be available at the locations shown in the box on page 3.

There will be a 15 day public comment period on the DNS.

## ***Remedial Design Nearing Completion***

Design documents for the Flume project will go out for bid in early 2008. The Flume project will consist of the following tasks:

- Removal and off-site disposal of all sediment contained in the Flume (about 250 cubic yards).
- Demolition, removal, and backfill of all wooden sections of the Flume.
- Plugging all existing input connections to the Flume from North Boeing Field (NBF).
- Installing a new buried storm drain pipe from the historic steam plant to a new outfall pipe in Slip 4 with a tide valve that will prevent sediment from entering the new pipe.
- Installing bioswales to better manage storm water that enters the new drain pipe prior to discharge into Slip 4. A bioswale is a sloping landscape element designed to trap silt and pollutants.
- Abandoning the existing buried pipe sections of the Flume inside NBF that are not needed for the new storm drain pipe.
- Removal of low-level polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)

contaminated soil from two Seattle City Light substations located next to the Flume.

**If you would like to receive a copy of the DNS or checklist, or to make comments, please contact:**

Wanda Schulze, Project Manager  
Seattle City Light  
700 5th Avenue, Suite 3200  
Seattle, WA 98104  
206-233-2191  
E-mail: [wanda.schulze@seattle.gov](mailto:wanda.schulze@seattle.gov)

**For more information on the SEPA DNS or the Flume remedial design, contact:**  
Wanda Schulze, Project Manager  
Seattle City Light

**For more information on MTCA requirements for Independent Remedial Actions, contact:**  
Mark Edens  
WA Department of Ecology  
3190 160th Ave SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
425-649-7070  
E-mail: [mede461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:mede461@ecy.wa.gov)

**For more information on Slip 4 and the Administrative Settlement Order on Consent, contact:**  
Karen Keeley  
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1200 Sixth Avenue Suite 900  
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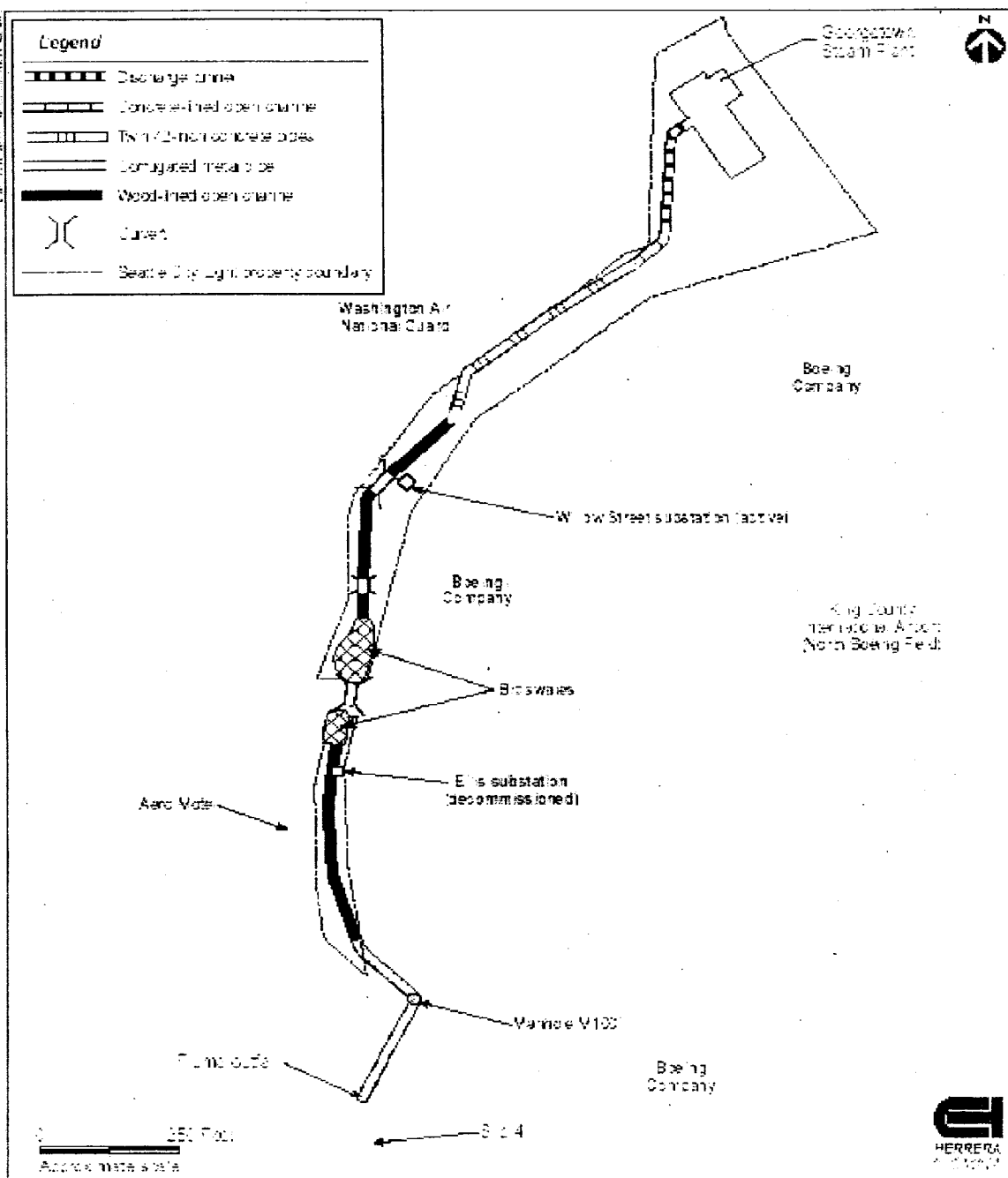


Figure 2. Georgetown Tunnel

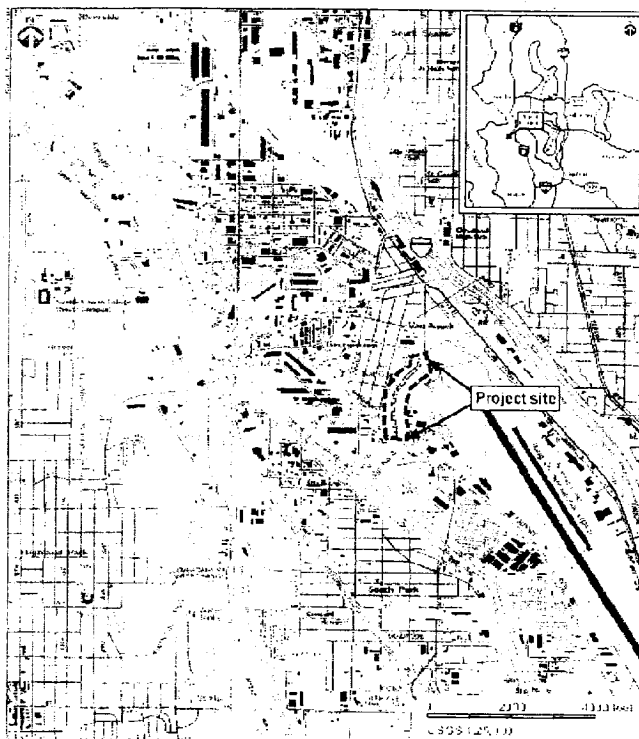


Figure 1. Aerial map of Georgetown Flume site, Seattle, Washington.

sediments with concentrations ranging from non-detectable to 92 parts per million. The EPA and Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) have determined that the Flume should be cleaned and closed prior to the planned cleanup of Slip 4 and the Duwamish Waterway sediments.

The removal of sediments from within the Flume and all work near the outfall in Slip 4 is being performed under EPA oversight as part of an Administrative Settlement Order on Consent (ASAO). The remaining portion of the Flume project is being conducted as an Independent Remedial Action under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA).

This project is designed and funded jointly by Seattle Public Utilities and Seattle City Light. The project will take about six months to complete, at an estimated cost of \$2.8 million.

## Site Background

The Georgetown Steam Plant (GTSP) Flume is a 2,500-foot-long system of wood or concrete-lined open ditches and buried pipes that run from the GTSP to the Duwamish Waterway at Slip 4. The Flume is located on property owned by the City of Seattle, with about one-half located within the North Boeing Field (NBF) facility. It is part of the GTSP National Historic Landmark.

The Flume was built in the early 1900s to discharge cooling water from the power plant to the Duwamish Waterway after the river was straightened. Discharge of cooling water from the GTSP stopped when the plant closed in the 1960s. After that the Flume continued to convey storm water from piped connections and surface run-off into the Flume.

Studies have shown that the Flume contains polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contaminated

### Documents can be reviewed at the following locations:

City of Seattle  
Department of Planning & Development  
Public Resource Center  
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA 98104-5070

Seattle Central Public Library  
1000 Fourth Ave  
Seattle, WA 98104

South Park Library  
8604 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
at South Cloverdale Street  
Seattle, WA 98108

WA Department of Ecology  
Central Files  
3190 160<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Bellevue, WA 98008  
Call for an appointment: 425-649-7190

Ecology's Web Site:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/lower\\_duwamish/sites/slip\\_4/slip\\_4.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/lower_duwamish/sites/slip_4/slip_4.html)



3190 160th Avenue SE  
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**Georgetown Steam Plant Flume**

**Independent Remedial  
Action Update**

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